

# Supply Chest



September 14, 2001

Navy Core Values: Honor, Courage, Commitment

Vol. 53 No. 16

## Training stand down to address Navy purchase card program

The Assistant Secretary of the Navy (research, development and acquisition) is directing and the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) is implementing a Navy and Marine Corps-wide purchase card program stand down for all Department of the Navy purchase card personnel to reinforce training on the program's policies and procedures.

Recent reviews of purchase card usage reinforced the need to ensure those who use and oversee purchase cards understand their individual responsibilities and accountability under the program.

The stand down will include detailed reviews of the purchase card program's rules and oversight requirements for card holders, approving officials and agency program coordinators.

In addition, during the period through September 28th, all agency program coordinators have been directed to review purchase card transactions for the 12-month period from September 2000 through August 2001 at their respective activities, to identify any transactions that may have been outside the program's guidelines. The agency program coordinators will use a newly fielded purchase card electronic transaction analysis system to gain a quick and efficient look at transaction data. Transactions that fall outside the program's guidelines will be investigated and appropriate corrective action taken.

NAVSUP, as the Navy Purchase Card Program Manager, is also reviewing Naval purchase card policies and procedures to see if those policies or procedures need to be strengthened or modified, or if new policies are required.



*Contract stevedores load stores aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) during a recent test of the Contractor Subsistence Load-out Program. The program is in support of Afloat Supply Department of the Future (ASDOF) initiatives and to improve the quality of life of shipboard Sailors, and has also been tested in San Diego. It will begin Navy-wide on Oct. 1, 2001. The program substantially reduces or eliminates the need for shipboard subsistence working parties for scheduled subsistence deliveries. Instead, contract civilian stevedores are employed to load stores from the pier to the ship's storerooms. It is envisioned that the transition from subsistence working parties staffed by sailors to working parties staffed by a majority of contractor personnel will be seamless for afloat units, and contribute to a substantially improved shipboard working environment.*

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# From the Executive Director: How can I get ahead?



By Sid Etherington  
Executive Director, FISC Norfolk

In this edition's article I want to explore the opportunities that currently exist for professional development. Many times it seems that there is no way to change career paths or advance into management/leadership positions. This may seem particularly true in our current downsizing environment, but I want to devote this column to the various programs that

do exist for us as Naval Supply Systems Command employees.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of a life of continuous learning. We should never stop learning and growing whether it is formal education or training opportunities. We are better employees, parents, spouses, children, siblings, friends, and neighbors if we never stop improving our knowledge and skill base. However, our ability to take advantage of such opportunities does indeed change over time, sometimes going to school is not something our lives or schedules will permit, so we postpone this step and look for other paths to continue to learn and advance professionally.

One path I would like you to consider are the training opportunities and leadership programs that exist for us through the Naval Supply Systems Command. There is a program aimed at just about every one of us.

I specifically want to address four of the NAVSUP supported programs in this article although keep in mind

that there are many other developmental programs available within the Navy and DOD. The first program is the *Aspiring Leadership Program*. This program is for employees at the GS-5/7 level. The program prepares employees to be team leaders, supervisors, and first level managers. Another similar program is the *New Leader Program* that introduces GS-7/11 employees to the core competencies of first line supervision and the required skills for effective team management. These programs are short-term time investments. The *Aspiring Leadership Program* consists of three 5-day seminars, and the *New Leader Program* is a six month program that includes three, 5-day seminars. These are excellent opportunities to receive the core competencies in the areas of first line supervision and team building.

The other two programs I would like to promote are the NAVSUP Civilian Workforce Planning Office's *Corporate Management Develop-*

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## Supply Chest

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center  
1968 Gilbert Street, Suite 600  
Norfolk, Virginia 23511-3392  
(757) 443-1013/14

Capt. William A. Kowba, SC, USN, FISC Commanding Officer  
Capt. Richard Trowbridge, SC, USN, DDNV Commander  
Bob Anderson, FISC Public Affairs Officer/Managing Editor  
Jim Kohler, Editor  
Bill Pointer, Staff Photographer  
Steve Craddock, Staff Graphic Illustrator

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## Supply Corps Internship Programs

The Supply Corps Internship Programs provide an excellent opportunity for junior officers to explore major Supply Corps policy arenas while gaining on-the-job training in a functional subspecialty.

All internships are considered entry-level acquisition positions where officers gain specific acquisition experience, education, and training. Five intern programs are now available to outstanding junior Supply Corps officers: Navy Acquisition Contracting Officer (NACO), Navy Petroleum Officer Trainee (POL), Business/Financial Management (BFM), Integrated Logistics Support (ILS), and the Information Technology (IT) Program.

Each program offers a 2-year tour, combining experience and formal training. Upon program completion, interns receive a Level II career field certification in their respective acquisition career field, as well as an experience subspecialty code (S code).

NAVSUP OP convenes an administrative screening board in April and October of each year. Interested officers must submit a written request endorsed by their command-

ing officer by 20 September in order to be considered for the October 2001 board. Requests may be mailed to: Navy Personnel Command (PERS-4412) Director, Supply Corps Personnel, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, Tenn. 38055-4412.

The primary selection criterion is sustained superior performance during an applicant's initial afloat tour. Applicants may submit a package prior to obtaining a warfare qualification; however, a warfare qualification must be obtained prior to negotiating orders with their detailee. Participation in an internship incurs a 2-year obligation. For additional information, please visit *It's Your Career - Officer* at [www.navsup.navy.mil](http://www.navsup.navy.mil) or the Supply Corps Personnel website at [www.persnet.navy.mil/pers4412/requirem.htm](http://www.persnet.navy.mil/pers4412/requirem.htm). Please contact Lieutenant Kerri Gray, SUP OP32A, at 901-874-2914 (DSN 882) or at [p4412t@persnet.navy.mil](mailto:p4412t@persnet.navy.mil) with any questions concerning internship programs.

I highly encourage senior officers to mentor our brightest young officers about the valuable experience and training provided by these internships!

J. D. MCCARTHY

Rear Admiral, SC, USN

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## Education Continues to Pay Off Big with VEAP Conversion

Education can make a world of difference in your lifestyle, especially if you are a retiree. Financing that education is where the switch from the Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP) to the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) Program really pays off big.

The basic monthly payment under the MGIB Program is \$650 for 36 months of full-time schooling for a maximum of \$23,400, in comparison to a member enrolled in VEAP, who would receive up to \$300 a month for 27 months of full-time training for a maximum of \$8,100.

Converting from VEAP to the MGIB Program requires a payment of \$2,700 into MGIB within 18 months of converting from VEAP. VEAP allows you to contribute any amount up

to \$2,700. If you remain enrolled in VEAP, any unused portion of your VEAP contributions is fully refundable to you.

Total taxable income is reduced the same way as the current MGIB Program; whether it's by making the \$2,700 one-time payment, or by monthly payments.

Certain restrictions apply to the conversion program. Sailors who participated (opened a VEAP account, regardless if money was put into the account) in the program on or before Oct. 9, 1996, and served continuously from that date through April 1, 2000, have the opportunity to convert to MGIB.

October 31 is the deadline to enroll in the MGIB Program. Members participating in the conversion program who

are retiring or transferring to the Fleet Reserve and elect to pay all or a portion of the required \$2,700 payment after retirement need to send all payments and correspondence to DFAS, Code PRRAB, 1240 East 9th Street, Lockbox-CL0001, Cleveland, OH 44199-2055.

Make checks and money orders payable to DFAS. In the memo portion of the check or money order, write "MGIB."

For more information on eligibility for conversion from VEAP to MGIB, call Navy MGIB Program customer service at 1-800-962-1425.

For questions concerning payment procedures for the \$2,700, call DFAS at DSN 580-5986 (ext. 5005), or (216)522-5986 (ext. 5005).



*This truck is just one of many pieces of equipment and supplies loaded aboard the cargo ship Maersk Arizona last month in preparation for exercise Bright Star. Material was staged on the Naval Station Norfolk waterfront, then trucked to Norfolk International Terminal, where it was loaded for transport to Egypt. The loadout offered an opportunity for a port security exercise at the terminal. U.S. troops, tanks and artillery have already begun to arrive into the Mediterranean port of Dekheila (Alex-*



*andria) for what is described as the world's largest military exercise, Egyptian Defense Ministry sources said recently. The 10 days of maneuvers, designated Bright Star, are due to begin Oct. 13. Forces from 10 countries will take part, familiarizing themselves with each other's equipment and tactics. The exercise is designed to improve the ability of U.S., European and Middle Eastern allies to work together in times of crisis.*

#### *How can I get ahead? from page 2*

*ment Program I and II (CMDP I and II). The programs are designed to take a group of employees who have shown a high potential for advancement and develop them into managers who thoroughly understand and support NAVSUP's mission performance. Individuals who enter the program must first apply under the announcement and then go through a selection process that starts at the activity level through an endorsement and recommendation process and ends with the final decision made by a group of NAVSUP senior managers.*

*The CMDP I is for GS-11 and GS-12 NAVSUP employees. This track is two years in duration and includes, in the first year, a 2-week orientation course, one 2-week business course, and two asynchronous distance education college courses. In the second year, selectees complete two additional asynchronous distance education college courses and one*

*90-day developmental assignment.*

*The CMDP II (CMDP I is a prerequisite) is for GS-13s. In this track, in the first year, selectees complete one 2-week advanced management course and two asynchronous distance education college courses. In year two, selectees complete two more asynchronous distance education college courses and a 180-day developmental assignment. The four online courses required for this track are in the areas of E-commerce, Supply Chain Management, Financial Management, and Procurement and Contracting. Currently the only promotion potential is with the CMDP II graduates. After completion of CMDP II, graduates are eligible for the referral program and may be promoted to the GS-14 level without further competition.*

*If you are wondering how to apply, each of these programs are announced each year by NAVSUP. Once the announcement is received*

*by the command, the Command Training Coordinator, Debra Monroe, sends the announcement to each department for distribution. If you are interested in the "whats" and "whens", don't hesitate to ask and you will find there are many websites with great information on both programs. These are terrific developmental opportunities fully supported by NAVSUP and FISC Norfolk. There is a program for everyone at every level. Your fellow employees are graduates, so ask them about their experience and apply yourself.*

*The next deadline for input to the Supply Chest is Friday, September 21 for the September 28 edition. Please submit material electronically or via diskette. Handwritten or typed material cannot be accepted. Call the editor at 443-1014 if you have questions about submitting material.*

# Navy Region Mid-Atlantic swears in new 'Mayor'

***Rear Adm. Architzel relieves Rear Adm. Cole as Commander of Mid-Atlantic Region***

*By JO2 Roy C. Padrick*

Navy Region Mid-Atlantic hailed a new commander Aug. 21 as Rear Adm. David Architzel relieved Rear Adm. Christopher W. Cole in a ceremony at 10 a.m. in hangar SP-2 on Naval Station Norfolk.

The ceremony was marked by speeches from both the relieved and relieving admirals, as well as a speech by Vice Adm. Al Konetzni, deputy commander-in-chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, a friend and mentor to Cole.

"He is the kind of person whom people enjoy being around," Cole said.

Konetzni told the crowd of assembled guests several anecdotes of his dealings with Cole, both locally and when the two first crossed paths in Southeast Asia, when Konetzni was commander of Submarine Group 7.

"Chris Cole is a true treasure to the Navy," Konetzni said. "This region has been fortunate to have had him as their commander." Cole spent time reflecting on his tenure as the region's commander. During his tour, naval installations and programs in Hampton Roads fully regionalized.

"From a professional standpoint, I remember when I first heard of the new concept of regional commands," he said. "I must admit, I was not quite sure if this was something that I was interested in or even believed would work very well.

"But now that I understand it, I find it hard to believe that we ever ran shore installations in any other way."

Programs like security, support services and port operations were run by the individual installations. The regionalization process put these programs under an individual manager who



*FISC Commanding Officer Capt. Bill Kowba (left) greets Rear Adm. David Architzel during a recent visit to FISC. The new CNRMA was briefed on current FISC operations, and then enjoyed a walking tour through several FISC spaces. He also toured the new Navy-Marine Corps Internet (NMCI) Network Operations Center (NOC).*

oversaw the operations. By design, this process was implemented to streamline the programs and allow for lower operating costs and improved service.

"For doing the things that the Mid-Atlantic region does, what makes the region really run is the program managers," Cole remarked.

"The program managers provide all the services, and the installation commanders are responsible for putting it all together." Cole took time to thank the people who made his job "easier.

"It has been my honor to work with a terrific bunch," he said of the installation commanders and program managers. "You have my most heartfelt thanks and gratitude."

The scope of commanding the region, with all its geographic and operational diversities, has been likened to

being the mayor of a town. Cole's tenure as "mayor" was eventful and great, he said.

Last October, the region faced the tragedy of the attack on the guided-missile destroyer Cole. Many Hampton Roads families were directly affected by it and, at a time when most needed, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic came together to support the families as the entire country grieved.

"The attack on the Cole was a shining example of how regionalization works," he said. "We came together when we needed to most.

"That, I would say, is one of my proudest moments as commander."

Cole will next report to the office of the Chief of Naval Operations as the director of shore installation management.

# News Briefs

**SECNAV Responds to Terrorist Attack at the Pentagon.** *The following is the text of a message released by the Secretary of the Navy:* America's naval forces share in the loss and sorrow of this attack. Our men and women in uniform, civilians and contractors were part of the nation's family that gave their lives for liberty, freedom and our way of life. In the face of an unseen enemy and unknown dangers, the Pentagon's evacuation was punctuated by anonymous acts of bravery and kindness by countless Navy and Marine Corps service members and civilians. In the days ahead, we will learn more about these attacks, will remain vigilant and will be prepared to carry out the president's orders. We will spare no effort to protect the American people and support our commander in chief's pledge to bring to justice the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them. As we have throughout our history, our nation will overcome this tragedy and emerge with an even stronger resolve to our fundamental principles and values. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you and I know that our prayers are with the victims, their families, and our commander in chief. God bless America. Gordon England, Secretary of the Navy.

**SGLI coverage extends to family members.** The Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance will be extended to provide coverage to family members beginning Nov. 1.

While the government has always had an excellent estate program to protect family members in case of a servicemember's death, little has been available to provide the military member financial protection in the event of a family member's death.

Under the new provisions, spouses



## CFC Kick-off...

*FISC Commanding Officer Capt. Bill Kowba (left) and DDNV Commander Capt. Jim Hagarty met with their respective Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) coordinators to kick-off the 2001 CFC drive. Pictured with Captains Kowba and Hagarty are Ron Hughes, Sub-Group 1A coordinator; Connie Hannah, FISC CFC coordinator; and Bill Maxwell, DDNV CFC coordinator. The campaign runs through Dec. 15. The mission of CFC is to support and to promote charity through an employee-focused program that is cost-efficient and effective. By enabling employees to select from a single guide and make their contributions through payroll deduction, CFC allows for generous contribution. CFC key workers will be contacting employees soon soliciting donations. Capt. Kowba called CFC a "very, very worthwhile campaign." He also said that FISC was able to meet and exceed last year's goal, and he looks forward to a successful campaign this year. "We want to run this campaign like we did last year, a straightforward, friendly, positive team-building effort," he added.*

and children will be automatically covered if the military member is an SGLI participant. The member will have the option to decline spouse coverage if submitted in writing.

The maximum automatic coverage is \$100,000 for a member's spouse, and any lesser amount must be evenly divisible by \$10,000. However, the amount of coverage of a member's spouse cannot exceed the amount of coverage of the insuring member. Premiums for spouse coverage will be charged based upon spouse's age and will range from 9 cents to 55 cents per \$1,000 of coverage. For example, \$100,000 of coverage could be obtained on a spouse younger than 35 for \$9 per month.

There is also a policy conversion option for the insured spouse after loss of eligibility for SGLI, he said.

Children will be covered automati-

cally for \$10,000, and no premiums will be charged the member. In cases where both parents are eligible SGLI participants, the child may not be insured by more than one member.

In the event of a family member's death, any insurance in effect will be paid to the insuring member. If the member passes away before payment can be made, then the amount will go to the people named as the member's beneficiaries.

**Bloodmobile to visit FISC.** The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at FISC, Building W-143 on Thursday, September 27 from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. in the Hampton Room. Due to the increased need for blood as a result of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, the Red Cross has requested that at least 50 pints of blood be collected at FISC. Please contact Helen Taylor

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at 3-1028 or Rosalind Bremby at 3-3446 for an appointment.

**Neptune Air Show cancelled.** The Naval Air Station Oceana 43<sup>rd</sup> Neptune Festival Air Show, scheduled for September 21-23, has been cancelled. Wright. On Saturday and Sunday, September 22-23<sup>d</sup>, gates open at 9:00 a.m. with flying starting at 10:00 a.m. Admission and parking

**September is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.** FISC's Civilian Employee Assistance Program (CEAP) wants FISC workers to be aware of the availability of substance abuse treatment for themselves and family members. Through this treatment, we can help loved ones, friends and co-workers overcome their addictions and substance abuse problems and go on to lead healthier, happier and more productive lives on the job or at home. CEAP will host a Lunch and Learn on Wednesday, September 19 from 11:00 a.m. to noon in Building W-143, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, in the Robert Jack Room. Guest speaker will be Allon

Wright from the Norfolk Community Service Board who will discuss substance abuse illness and available area treatment. CEAP offers free, professional services to all civilian employees and immediate family members of workers assigned to FISC, NAVTRANS, DECCA and FOSSAC. Contact Mrs. Veronica Thomas at 443-1049 or 443-1490 for information about what CEAP can do for you.

**Navy Times to Select the First-ever Navy Times "Best Base" Award.** *Navy Times* proudly announces an awards program to recognize and honor the Navy base which provides the best environment and opportunities for Sailors and their families. In November 2001, a Navy base will be selected by the staff of *Navy Times* as the first-ever *Navy Times* "Best Base" presented by GEICO. The "Best Base" will be selected from nominations by the readers of *Navy Times* beginning in the September 17, 2001 edition. *Navy Times* wants to recognize those bases where living conditions,

concern for service members' well-being and community spirit set the bar for excellence. The *Navy Times* "Best Base" award will be unique and particularly meaningful because the winning base will have been selected from input by sailors themselves, the readership of *Navy Times*. This is a "grass-roots" award, a recognition of a superior base by those who live and work there. In addition to winning *Navy Times* "Best Base", individual base winners and runners-up will be selected in categories such as "Best Family Life", "Best Singles Life", "Best Facilities" and "Best Community Life". Nomination forms and all voting instructions are now available online at [www.NavyTimes.com/bestbase](http://www.NavyTimes.com/bestbase). To grab extra attention, 22x28 inch posters are available for your use by calling 703-642-7351.

Runners-up and individual category winners will be named in the November 12, 2001 issue of *Navy Times*. The winning base will be recognized in *Navy Times* on November 19, 2001.



### **Welcoming providers to the Fleet**

*FISC Norfolk Director of Customer Operations Capt. Cris Toledo helps DDNV Deputy Commander Bill Weisner cuts a ribbon officially opening the FISC/DDNV Waterfront Supply Expo. The annual event was held recently at Club Pier 26 on the Naval Station. More than 60 vendors representing a wide variety of service industries displayed their latest products in two display areas. Outdoors in the parking lot, vendors displayed products available to Fleet customers at the Super Servmart. Inside the club, vendors showcased products ranging from the latest in food for the Fleet, to custom-made embroidery for ships. Nearly 600 people attended the event.*

# Bravo Zulu



**Michael Kurten, CAX Code BX2, Wage Grade Employee of the Quarter**



**Advance Traceability and Control (ATAC) Customer Support Branch, Code 303, is the FISC Work Team of the Quarter. They are (left to right) Christine Barnes, Bonnie Morgan, Patricia Johnson, William Alberry, Libby Bishop, Sheila Bell, and Carolyn Burns. Also part of the team but not pictured is Iris Bynum.**



**PC2(SW) Damos Grogg is FISC's Sailor of the Quarter**



**Rudolpho Antolin, Navy Mail Center, General Schedule Employee of the Quarter**

## *FISC/DDNV salute their top performers*



**Betty Moose is DDNV's White Collar Employee of the Quarter**



**Daniel McKnight is DDNV's Blue Collar Employee of the Quarter**



**DDNV's Work Team of the Quarter is from Code E, Receiving. They are (left to right) Olga Jones, Don Jackson, Beverly Slayton, Barbara Lawyer.**



**Willis Overton is DDNV's Supervisor/Work Leader of the Quarter**